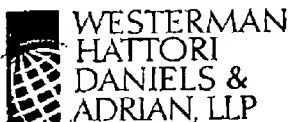


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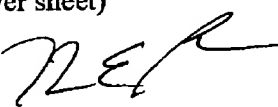
Date: February 10, 2004

To: After Final Communications Department  
Patent and Trademark Office

Re: **Response to Office Action dated March 20, 2003**  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/642,883  
By: **Masato KOIKE et al.**  
Your Reference: 50006647US  
Our Reference: 001035

Fax Number: 703-872-9319

Number of Pages: 21 (including cover sheet)

From: Thomas E. Brown 

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached to this Fax is a copy of the Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116; Petition for Extension of Time; Change of Correspondence Address and Date Stamped Post Card which were filed on December 22, 2003. However, it appears that this Response was never entered. As such, please enter this Response as soon as possible.

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**PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE SAFE AND CLEAR RECEIPT OF ALL PAGES BEING SENT**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re the Application of: **KOIKE, et al.**Group Art Unit: **2872**Serial No.: **09/642,883**Examiner: **A. CHANG**Filed: **August 22, 2000****P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8966****For: PLANE DIFFRACTION GRATING BASED ON SURFACE NORMAL  
ROTATION AND ITS APPLICATION TO AN OPTICAL SYSTEM****RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -  
GROUP ART UNIT 2872****Mailstop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 22, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **March 20, 2003**, and the filing of a Notice of Appeal dated **September 22, 2003**, extended to **December 22, 2003** by a one-month Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14 of this paper.